

Application number 09/620,308
Amendment dated May 4, 2004
Reply to office action mailed December 4, 2003

PATENT

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

After entry of this amendment, claims 1-25 will be pending in this application. Claims 1, 10, and 17 have been amended. Claims 19-25 have been added. Support for the amended and new claims can be found in the specification, no new matter has been added.

Claims 1 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Kannan et al. (Kannan), United States patent number 5,432,045. Claims 2-9 and 11-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kannan. Reconsideration of these rejections in light of the included amendments and remarks and allowance of all the pending claims is respectfully requested.

Claim 17 has been allowed, and claims 17 and 18 would be allowable if rewritten as independent claims.

Claim 1

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Kannan. But Kannan does not teach each and every element of this claim. For example, claim 1 as amended recites "wherein...the serial port consists of a single conductor." (emphasis added) Kannan does not provide this feature.

The pending office action cites the column 28 of Kannan as teaching each and every element of this claim. (See pending office action, page 2, last paragraph.) But this passage does not teach using a serial port having a single conductor as required by the claim.

Rather, Kannan teaches using two conductors for the serial port, specifically a data line and a clock line. For example, see column 28, lines 39-41. See also Figure 13, clock and data lines (unlabeled) provided by the Battery Power Processor 1316, and Figure 19 showing clock and data signals.

Using a signal conductor as required by the claim provides many benefits. For example, only one integrated pin is required. Also, a clock pin driver is not needed, saving die area and power. Kannan does not provide these features.

For at least these reasons, claim 1 should be allowed.

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Other claims

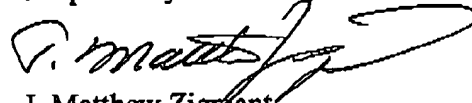
Claim 10 should be allowed for similar reasons as claim 1. Claims 2-9 and 11-16 depend on claims 1 and 10 and should be allowed for similar reasons as claims 1 and 10 and for the additional limitations they recite.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal notice of allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-752-2456.

Respectfully submitted,


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